



11/30/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Atty Dkt. 900-409

Date: November 30, 2001

Sir:

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF SOLAR CELLS

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

- ☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract
16 pages of specification and claims (including 5 numbered claims), and
4 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.
☐ Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.
☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.
☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119/120/121 based on the following foreign/US applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
Hei 11 (1999)-022274	Japan	29/01/1999
09/492,109	U.S.	27/01/2000

, respectively, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

- ☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.
☒ Certified copy of JA filed January 27, 2000 in prior application no. 09/492,109 filed January 27, 2000
☐ Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--
☒ This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☒ continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/492,109, filed January 27, 2000, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.
☒ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency (3 mo. extension).
☒ The prior application is assigned to Sharp Kabushiki Kaisha.
☒ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.
☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.
☐ Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment prior to calculation of filing fee:

- ☒ Also attached: ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☐ Other:

- Inventor: Satoshi MASHIMA Japanese
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)
Residence: (city) Kitakatsuragi-gun, (state/country) Nara, Japan
Mailing Address: 85-1, Hachikawa, Taima-cho, Kitakatsuragi-gun,, Nara, Japan
(Zip Code) 639-2163
- Inventor: Katsuhiko NOMOTO Japanese
(first) MI (last) (citizenship)
Residence: (city) Kashiwara-shi (state/country) Osaka, Japan
Mailing Address: 1-12-41, Hirano, Kashiwara-shi, Osaka, Japan
(Zip Code) 582-0019

☐ See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!Address all future communications to NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C., 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor, Arlington, VA 22201.

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100
JAR:caj

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: Joseph A. Rhoa, Reg. No. 37,515

Signature:

11/30/01
09/997244
J1135 U.S. PTO